

Amendments to the Specification:

Please add the following paragraphs after paragraph [95]:

[96] By way of illustration and not as a limitation, in an embodiment of the present invention, a system for providing secure network communication comprises a network, a plurality of host devices connected to said network, an intelligent network interface between each host device and the network, at least one central management console for dynamically distributing security agent servlets to said intelligent network interfaces, and components on each intelligent network interface for running said security agent servlets.

[97] In yet another embodiment of the present invention, each intelligent network interface further comprises a CPU, memory, an I/O interface for the network, and a second I/O interface for the host device.

[98] In still another embodiment of the present invention, each intelligent network interface is implemented in a form selected from the group consisting of PCI cards, PCMCIA cards, rapid I/O - high bandwidth cards, and standalone devices.

[99] In another embodiment of the present invention, each intelligent network interface further comprises a serial line authentication port. In yet another embodiment of the present invention, the serial line authentication port is a USB port.

[100] In still another embodiment of the present invention, the intelligent network interface further comprises a parallel port authentication port.

[101] In yet another embodiment of the present invention, the memory comprises flash memory for storing an OS and dynamic memory for applications.

[102] In even another embodiment of the present invention, the memory comprises a hard drive for storing an OS and applications and random access memory for running said OS and applications.

[103] In another embodiment of the present invention, the intelligent network interfaces have an OS that is distinct from the host devices.

[104] In still another embodiment of the present invention, the dynamically distributed security agent servlets provide functions selected from the group consisting of: encryption, authentication, protocol translations, single sign-on, multi-level firewalling,

distinguished-name based firewalling, centralized user management, machine diagnostics, proxying, fault tolerance, centralized patching, web filtering, virus scanning, auditing, and gateway intrusion detection. In even another embodiment of the present invention, the system further comprises an encryption accelerator on a field programmable gate array (FPGA) on the intelligent network interface.

[105] An embodiment of the present invention provides a method of providing non-host integrated fault tolerance for hosts on a network. An intelligent network interface is provided between a network and each host on the network. A central management console (CMC) is provided on the network. The CMC dynamically distributes fault tolerance servlets to the hosts such that, upon a failure of a first host, a first intelligent network interface between the network and the first host redirects packets to a second host on the network without any intervention from the first or second host.